

# Ripley County Democrat.

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## 'ROUNABOUT THE STATE.

**Cleaned from Exchanges--Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot--Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.**

Up in Cape Girardeau county the undertakers now charge the county \$15 for pauper funerals.

Oran is considering voting a bond issue for the purpose of constructing a municipal lighting plant.

The Stoddard County Poultry Association has close to seventy-five active members and is steadily growing.

The City of Caruthersville has received a new \$3,500 automobile fire truck. The old fire wagon and team is to be sold.

Hayes Eaker, living at Hux, near Lutesville, was kicked to death by one of his horses, while hauling wood recently.

T. M. Turner, nine years ago, purchased 184 acres of land in Scott county for \$9,000. Recently he sold it for \$19,000.

A Rails county farmer sold fourteen suckling mules for \$1,485, averaging more than \$107 each. Another span of the same age sold for \$275.

Poplar Bluff has a business college which opened for its fall session last week with a good attendance from that city and various points in southeast Missouri.

F. A. O'Brien, a young switchman working for the Cotton Belt in the Illinois yards, was run over by a car and died from loss of blood several hours later, recently.

The docket for the September term of circuit court in Stoddard County has but forty-one criminal cases, and 155 civil actions, of which thirty-one are for divorce.

Lee Masters of Cape Girardeau after expending more than forty-two years in the service of a milling company there, has been forced to give up the work on account of bad eyesight.

Southeast Missouri sends out the joyful news that our section is not afraid of any meat famine, as the 1917 crop of frogs, 750,017,802 in number, will soon be ready for the harvest.

The Robert & Crawford crushing plant at Mingo started crushing rock several days ago and have already filled many orders. They have yet enough orders to keep them busy for some months.

Kennett failed to sign up for the Chautauqua next year, according to the News, despite the fact that the program this year has been conceded one of the best balanced ever rendered there.

Morris Tinder of Scott County, a young farmer, raised 1,500 bushels of Irish potatoes on twelve acres of land. He now has twenty mules at work preparing land to plant 360 acres in wheat this fall.

Sam H. Tuttle of Sikeston was awarded the contract for the new \$35,000 school building at Caruthersville. He is also erecting another school building at Crowder, a fast growing town in Scott county.

Abig timber concern is opening up work in Wayne county on a 90,000 acre tract of land and will install a number of mills to manufacture the lumber from the tract. The land probably after time will be mined, provided ore in paying quantities can be developed.

W. W. Strother and daughter, Zella, of Fredericktown have been sued for \$5,000 damages by the father of a girl who was injured last May when the Strother car, driven by Miss Zella, struck the girl and seriously hurt her.

Citizens of Neely's Landing, in Cape Girardeau county, have decided that they will not permit a beer depot to be conducted there and have notified a man who was acting as agent for such that the business must be stopped.

The coal supply at the Farmington power plant was totally destroyed by fire last week, thought to be caused by combustion. Fire has been discovered many times before, but was extinguished before any damage was done.

An item in the "Forty-years-ago" column of the Jackson Cash-Book, of last week stated that "William Byrd sold five head of cattle Saturday, weighing 4,230 pounds, at 2 1/2 cents gross. The largest one, a cow, weighed 1,326 pounds."

Mississippi county has received the services of a Federal farm adviser as a result of a week's campaign to enlist 300 farmers in the movement. Prof. Vannatta, of Missouri University, has been appointed to the place and will take up his duties at once.

Reynolds is another southeast Missouri county that is getting into the good roads game, its Court having recently authorized an election to be held on November 3rd for a bond issue for \$100,000 to improve its road system. It seems to be catching.

The gratifying news is made public that the Missouri Supreme court is only two years behind with its docket, or closer to being caught up with its work than it has been in 35 years. There are 344 cases docketed for the October term and January call of the court.

The farmers near Uniontown in Cape Girardeau county have purchased a rock crusher and on certain days assemble at the plant and crush considerable quantities for the roads in their immediate neighborhood. Last Monday over seventy-five loads were crushed, which was enough to hard surface a road for some distance.

A Springfield liquor dealer with 15,000 mail order customers, who has been in the business for thirty years, is going to quit. The inroads of prohibition along with soaring war taxes makes it impossible for a dealer in liquor to make a livelihood, the retiring man says. He will engage in the manufacture and sale of soft drinks after the first of January, next.

Cape Girardeau will probably have a wet and dry election in the near future. W. C. Shupp, manager of the Missouri Anti-Saloon League, has been in that city several days looking over the situation for such a move. It is believed that Shupp was sent to the Cape at the request of several business men who did not favor the action of the city council some time ago in raising their taxes and letting the saloon taxes remain as they were.

## "TIP" GRAFT IS LUCRATIVE

City Dwellers Have to Stand for the Taunts of Lackeys When They Fail to "Come Across."

New York.—The lucrativeness of checking hats in a large restaurant is indicated by the injunction proceedings of one Louis Wilk to restrain a well-known cafe and restaurant company from giving the checking privilege in their restaurant to another bidder.

Wilk had the concession for \$2,000 per year, but seems to have been outbid when another enterprising concessionaire offered \$4,500 a year.

The restaurant company claimed the contract with Wilk called for equal treatment of all customers and that the hat boys employed by Wilk were gifted with rare psychological qualities, which enabled them to distinguish between a "dead one" and a "live one." The difference is well-known to anyone ever the object of an attack by these "hat hyenas." In short, the restaurant company alleges that the tipper suffered taunts from the check boys, grimaces and the occasional dropping of his hat. The check boys will probably have their business agents inform the "gentlemen from the press" that they do not wish to be interviewed.

## KING GEORGE AT FRONT



Although the "throne" of England is popularly believed to be the huge upholstered chair at Buckingham palace there is an old legend to the effect that "where ye king sits, there ye throne of England stands."

If this be true the humble, battle-scarred kitchen chair shown in the above photograph is particularly exalted, for it not only holds his majesty, George the Fifth, but has actually enthroned him on the ruined battlements of the Chateau Thiepval in northwest France.

England and France, fighting side by side, have only recently wrested Thiepval back from the German hosts which seized it many months ago. A British general is explaining the battle to his majesty, who is a close student of strategy and is quick to reward a victorious leader.

## KERENSKY ONCE A "SUSPECT"

Czar's Secret Police Had Watched the Present Ruler of Russia for Months.

Petrograd.—When the revolution broke out in Petrograd the police stations were fired. The crowds joined in the firing.

No one seemed to realize that the records of the "Black Hundred" would be of more use in existence than in ashes. Any attempts of souvenir-seeking onlookers to seize any of the documents from the bonfires met with resistance.

A bank clerk was in the crowd around one of the fires. Among the books and papers dumped into the blaze he saw a docket marked "Kerensky." He seized this and made a speech that persuaded the crowd that the Kerensky record ought to be saved.

Recently the bank clerk presented the dossier to Kerensky. It consisted of several hundred pages and showed that the secret police had been following him night and day for six months.

## Hol The New Dance.

New York.—Hark ye, men and maid-

ens—over forty! Dancers and young bucks too old for military service will dance this fall the "Brooklyn rock." The American Society of Professors of Dancing, in congress assembled at the Hotel Majestic, passed out this information and explained the comfortable lines and strokes of the new hop.

## "FIGHTING JACK" PERSHING'S EYE KEEN FOR THE TINIEST OF DETAILS

Inspection of American Training Camp in France Is Described by a Newspaper Correspondent—Officers and Men Made to Realize That War Is a Serious Business—French Soldiers Fond of Americans.

Paris.—"Fighting Jack" Pershing paid his first flying visit to the American training camp in France, and left behind him a trail of burning ears electrified men and a spirit of grim, military doggedness that brought the newest recruit to a realization that war, even in the training, may be all General Sherman said it was, and then some.

The soldiers knew nothing about it, but the American commander was expected to arrive on a Monday. He didn't. The camp went on with its routine life. Bright and early Tuesday morning the general drove into the first camp en route from Paris, and things began to hum.

Cavalry were drilling in a huge field off to the left, while on the right a group of infantry was practicing with the bayonet, a bombing squad was throwing grenades and engineers were shoring up a practice trench.

## Cavalry Sight Pershing.

The cavalry commander was the first to spot the general's erect form. "Attention!" he sang out.

The whole squad drew up short. There was a clatter of spurs and steel as the company wheeled into formation before the commander in chief. "Salute!" bawled the captain.

A hundred sabers flashed in the sun. "Good work," nodded the general briefly, and he strode over to the infantry.

Some of the men were so busily engaged in trying to perforate stuffed sawdust bags representing supposititious Germans they failed to note the approach of the general.

At the second cry of "attention!" they stopped and stiffened up, guns clattering to their sides eyes rigidly fixed front—all except one man, who followed the general's movements as he made a rapid inspection of their arms.

The general stopped before him. "The first principle of a soldier is to learn to stand at attention," said he crisply. "Sergeant, have this man stand at attention for five minutes!" "Fall out!" ordered the sergeant.

The "Sammy" stepped back out of the ranks.

"Attention!" snapped the sergeant.

The soldier fixed his eyes grimly in front of him and never moved them. "Fall back!" exploded the sergeant at the end of the five minutes, and the incident was closed.

General Pershing talked earnestly for about ten minutes with their regimental commander, commending the men for some of their work, pointing out their faults. Then he passed on out to the bombers and sappers.

The bombers went through the third degree with flying colors. General Pershing making only one comment, when he suggested that one of their number put a little more force behind his throw and not try spitting work with a hand grenade.

Then the train of motor cars made off to the practice fields in the direction of the nearest village where troops were billeted, some of them off duty and lounging around.

The chief commander's car pulled up before a combination stable, hay-loft and dwelling place that the French peasants had shared indiscriminately with their feathered and barnyard animals.

Pershing took one glance at the inscription on the outside of it—"Sergeant K—, Sergeant G—, 62 men." "Too many for a billet of this size. Who's the captain here?"

## Finds Overcrowding.

His name was given.

"Tell him to change these men to another billet where they won't be so crowded," was the order.

Billet after billet was investigated in similar manner, some of them meeting with the general's approval. When they didn't he said so in unmistakable language, direct from the shoulder, that sometimes fairly crisped and cracked.

During his trip of inspection the general was accompanied by General Silbert and a distinguished French officer who has been attached to his staff. Notes were made on all the points he suggested, and what he didn't like was immediately remedied.

The French soldiers here are just as fond of the "Sammys" as they insist on calling the boys, as of their own "copains," or comrades in arms. The few American troopers who can speak French are indeed "the fair-haired boys" so far as the French are concerned. They are invited to share in the "pinard," or red wine, issued to the "pottus," to try their smoking tobacco, and, whenever the hour permits,

to have a drink of something in the cafes.

With champagne at eight francs (about \$1.50) a bottle, many a French soldier, on his five cents a day, has squandered a whole month's pay in order to buy this little luxury for some of his American friends.

## All Kinds of Frenchmen.

Swarthy sons of France from the Basse Pyrenees, blue-eyed Normans, who resemble Englishmen to a startling degree, lanky men from Piton, the nearest approach to our own rangy Westerners or long-limbed Yankees, all take part in these gatherings and drink in every word of the conversation along with their beverages that cheer.

One stocky Frenchman from Pau, who spoke with a throaty burr and gargled his words, dropped into the cafe reeking with iodoforn. He was just out of the hospital and his right arm was still in a sling while his bandaged head gave him the appearance of a turbaned Mohammedan. He took one look at the crowd, saluted and dropped into a chair on the opposite side of the room.

One of his comrades, at the suggestion of the Americans, called to him, saying, "Come and have a drink with the Americans."

The wounded man started violently and jumped to his feet.

"Les Americains!" exclaimed he. "Americains? Vraiment? (Truly?)" "Why, yes," explained his compatriot. "Didn't you know the Americans were here? Where have you been?"

"This is my first day out," apologized the other. "Are you really Americans?" he demanded, turning toward the soldiers.

They assured him that such was the case.

"But what are you, doctors, ambulance men?" asked the Frenchman a little timidly. "Not real soldiers!"

His friend replied a little impatiently they were infantrymen, fighting men, soldiers of the line who would soon be doing their share in the trenches.

The man from Pau was visibly affected. He breathed deeply and then two teardrops welled into his eyes.

"It is a great pleasure," he finally stammered in his own tongue. "They told me the Americans were here but I didn't know they were soldiers, 'pottus' like myself."

## Learning to Embrace.

He stretched out his one good hand to the interpreter for the party, a tall, bronzed corporal from Colorado.

"Will you embrace me, my corporal?" he asked.

The corporal took the outstretched hand but shifted rather uneasily. The French "embrace" consists of a kiss on either cheek. But he hesitated for only a moment.

"With pleasure, mon brave," said he, using the familiar form, and rising to his full six feet he inclined his head and saluted the Frenchman in the manner of the country.

The rest of the company, both French and Americans, arose as one man, without the faintest suggestion of a smile from the Americans, and shook the little man from Pau by the hand.

"It is one of the happiest moments of my life," said the latter simply as the company resumed their places.

Despite the obstacle of language a strong feeling of fraternity has sprung up between the men. Many an American commissary sergeant has won the heart of a higher French officer by presenting him with a loaf of white bread fresh from the field bakery.

The French in return gave presents of earlins, sausages and other items from their supplies that go to vary the American menu. Through an arrangement made by one wideawake American commissary sergeant his mess has more than once been treated to a real chicken dinner. White bread has been a thing of the past in France for some months, and nothing tickles the French palate more than well-baked, fresh white bread, for bread is one of the principal articles of food in this country. Because of the shortage of wheat, an official decree in effect for nearly a year, provides that the white flour must be mixed with a large percentage of rye, barley or oatmeal.

## German Captives Pleased.

The few German prisoners who have been turned over to work for the United States in exchange for their food, are fairly in rapture over their situation. The food of the Americans

is a never-ceasing marvel to them. They work like men possessed in order that they may not be disqualified from participating in the American rations and they are the envy of their less fortunate fellows.

No better idea of what the Germans are told by their own officers can be conveyed than by the assertion of a recently made prisoner.

He was standing in the street of a village in the American area when two officers went by.

"Are those Englishmen?" he asked in perfectly good French of his captor and in the hearing of the correspondent.

"No. They are Americans," replied the French guard.

The German only smiled unbelievably.

"But they may be some stuff officers on a visit to the front. There are no Americans in France, because they told me so before I was taken," persisted the prisoner.

Just then a company of infantry, rifles over their shoulders, followed by a huge motortruck with "U. S. A." painted on it in bold letters, swung by. "You see," grinned the "pottu" triumphantly, "there are American soldiers."

"They lied to us at home," answered the prisoner after a moment's hesitation.

To any who might be inclined to ask, why do troops need to go through such thorough and intensive training for trench warfare, an idea of what our boys have to learn would be the simplest answer.

## Reorganizing the Army.

With the reorganization of the American division from its pre-war footing of approximately 28,000 men to the French basis of 19,000 men, come changes that upset the whole idea of war as they have learned it, and a redistribution of duties that sounds rather formidable.

Formerly a company consisted simply of the company commander, two officers, two musicians, a cook and two men. Now that is all changed. There is the commander and his officer of liaison, or connecting link with the company, his lieutenants and the musicians and the cook, but with the addition of motorcyclists, farriers, signal corps men, mechanics, bombers, sappers, automatic riflemen in addition to the machine gun company of the regiment, messengers, sharpshooters, etc.

The company is divided into platoons. Even the platoons are subdivided into groups. The first group may be bayonet men, who "go over the top" and lead the charge. The second group is the bombers. They charge with the bayonet men, but when the latter have attained their objective and may still push forward, the bombers stay behind to "clean up" the captured trenches, and see that the enemy, emerging from their dugouts, do not take the riflemen in the rear.

Instead of having a machine gun company to each regiment, as formerly, there is a machine gun company to each battalion. There is a company of pioneers which supports the riflemen in their advance. Before they are out of their own trenches, the trench mortar company, a new thing to the American army, must get in its work.

Each man must learn his new duties and how and when to fulfill them to the utmost advantage. Each man, in addition to his regular and regimental marking, is badged to show whether his post is behind or in front of the lines. Messengers wear special insignia that permits them to pass to the rear without the slightest delay.

These are only a few of the thousand and one things that the men in camp are learning and learning quickly, but it takes time to instruct them so that they may take advantage of the lessons already drilled into the French and British soldiers, namely that a soldier's greatest duty is to do his work in such a capable manner that he may help in the protection of his own life as well as those of his comrades and associates.

## BUYS GLASSES TO GET IN WAR

Southern Youth Corrects Defect in Vision and Passes Army Examination.

Cincinnati.—There was nothing about the appearance of Robert E. Hollingsworth, eighteen years old, Chattanooga, Tenn., to indicate that he possessed coin of the realm, but he willingly spent \$8 in order to join the regular army.

Hollingsworth, registered as a laborer, called at the army recruiting station and sought to join any branch of the service. Because of a defect in his vision he was told he could not be accepted unless he obtained spectacles.

The youth returned to the station later in the day and was examined with the glasses on, passing the test. He had paid \$8 for the spectacles. Hollingsworth was assigned to the medical corps.